

II. REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1, 7, and 15 have been amended. Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserve the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Further, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1-8, 11-13, 15-16, and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Shi et al. (US patent no 5,875,296), hereafter “Shi.” Claims 9-10, 14, 17, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shi. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons stated below.

A. REJECTION OF CLAIM 15 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

The Office has asserted that claims 1-20 is indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Office objects to the term “solely” in independent claims 1, 7 and 15. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 15 to replace “solely” with “directly” and have amended claim 7 to remove the word “solely” altogether. Applicants assert that these amendments further clarify the invention. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

B. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-8, 11-13, 15-16, AND 18-19 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

In the Office Action, claims 1-8, 11-13, 15-16 and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Shi et al. (US patent no 5,875,296), hereafter Shi. Applicants respectfully submit that Shi does not teach each and every feature of the claimed invention. For example, with respect to independent claim 1, and similarly claimed in independent claims 7 and 15, Applicants respectfully submit the Shi fails to disclose responsive directly to a request from a client for a web page hosted by a web server, storing an indicator that said client has requested a web page hosted by said web server. In contrast, the indicator in Shi is stored only after a user has logged in to the network. Col. 8, line 32-46. FIG. 4. To this extent, the authentication method in Shi requires a user to log in using a user id and password before the user can get any data from the system. Col. 8, line 47-51. As such, Shi does not disclose a verification method in which no initial login occurs, i.e., one responsive directly to a request from a client for a web page. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejections be withdrawn.

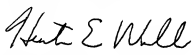
With respect to dependent claims, Applicants herein incorporate the arguments presented above with respect to the independent claims from which the claims depend. Furthermore, Applicants submit that all dependant claims are allowable based on their own distinct features. Since the cited art does not teach each and every feature of the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

III. CONCLUSION

In addition to the above arguments, Applicants submit that each of the pending claims is patentable for one or more additional unique features. To this extent, Applicants do not acquiesce to the Office's interpretation of the claimed subject matter or the references used in rejecting the claimed subject matter. Additionally, Applicants do not acquiesce to the Office's combinations and modifications of the various references or the motives cited for such combinations and modifications. These features and the appropriateness of the Office's combinations and modifications have not been separately addressed herein for brevity. However, Applicants reserve the right to present such arguments in a later response should one be necessary.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary to place the application in better condition for allowance, he is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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